



NOAA'S OFFICE OF OCEAN & COASTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

OCR M - Governmental Partnerships on Coastal and Marine Management Issues

The Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCR M) is part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Ocean Services Line Office. It provides national leadership, strategic direction, and guidance to state and territory coastal programs and estuarine research reserves. The office further works with state and territory coastal resource managers to develop a scientifically-based, comprehensive national system of marine protected areas (MPAs), and supports effective management and sound science to protect, sustain, and restore coral reef ecosystems. These activities are mandated by the Coastal Zone Management Act, the MPA Presidential Executive Order, and the Coral Reef Conservation Act.

Coastal Zone Management

OCR M administers the National Coastal Zone Management Program, a voluntary partnership between the federal government and U.S. coastal states and territories authorized by the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) of 1972. The CZMA encourages states and territories to develop comprehensive coastal management programs to manage and balance competing uses of-and impacts to-coastal resources. OCR M's Coastal Programs Division works with the 34 state and territory programs to advance national coastal management objectives and to maintain and strengthen state and territorial coastal management capabilities. OCR M supports states through financial assistance, mediation, technical services, and participation in state, regional and local forums. OCR M also oversees the application of federal consistency, a powerful tool within the CZMA, to ensure that federal activities in a state are consistent with state coastal policies.

OCR M also administers the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP), established in 2002 to protect coastal and estuarine lands con-

sidered important for their ecological, conservation, recreational, historical or aesthetic values.

National Estuarine Research Reserves

The National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS) is a network of 27 estuarine protected areas representing different biogeographic regions of the United States set aside for long-term research, monitoring, education, and resource stewardship. NOAA's Estuarine Reserves Division provides funding, national guidance, and technical assistance. A lead state agency or university manages each reserve with input from local partners. The partnership between NOAA and coastal states protects more than 1.3 million acres of estuarine land and water: providing essential habitat for wildlife; offering educational opportunities for students, teachers, and the public; and serving as platform for research and monitoring.

CICEET

The Cooperative Institute for Coastal and Estuarine Environmental Technology (CICEET) is a partnership between NOAA and the

University of New Hampshire. Through partnerships and a national competitive funding program, CICEET translates the priority technology needs of coastal managers into the research objectives of leading scientists. To ensure that these efforts yield tools that are innovative, effective, and useful, CICEET implements a process that identifies the technical and non-technical barriers to developing solutions to specific coastal management challenges, and creates targeted, strategic funding opportunities.

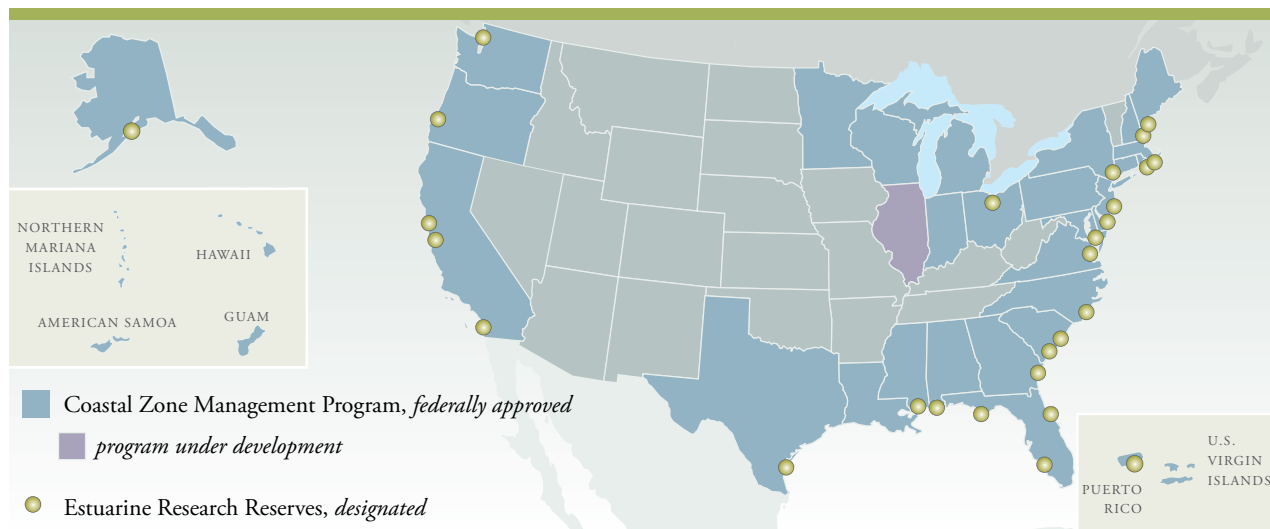
Coral Reef Conservation

From mapping and monitoring to managing reef resources and removing harmful debris, NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program (CRCP) addresses the goals and priority actions identified in the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 and other mandates. The CRCP is a cross-NOAA partnership that brings together multidisciplinary expertise from four of NOAA's Line Offices: National Ocean Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, and National Environmental Satellite Data and Information Service.

The CRCP also serves as the secretariat for the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force, helping coordinate coral reef conservation efforts across 12 federal agencies, seven states and territories in the U.S. Pacific and Atlantic/Caribbean regions, three Freely Associated States, and many other partners.

Marine Protected Areas

Under the mandate of Presidential Executive Order 13158, the National Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Center works in collaboration with the Department of the Interior to develop the framework for the inter-governmental national system of MPAs. The MPA Center carries out this work in a number of ways. It consults with federal and state agencies, tribes, the MPA Federal Advisory Committee, fishery management councils, MPA managers, and resources users and other stakeholders. These consultations allow the MPA Center to gather input and share information about developing the national system. The MPA Center also conducts cooperative scientific research and analysis and provides technical support and governmental linkages necessary to develop and maintain an effective national system of MPAs.



Please visit our websites for more information on the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management:

www.coastalmanagement.noaa.gov

www.nerrs.noaa.gov

www.mpa.gov

www.coralreef.noaa.gov

www.ciceet.unh.edu